

Menomonie Police Department

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Police Department
Christopher Langlois, Chief of Police

MEDIA RELEASE

Date of Release: February 24, 2012

Released By: Sgt. Brian Hagen

Incident: FIRE/MISC

Date: February 24, 2012

Case Number: 12-778

Case Time: 3:35 p.m.

Address: Lake Menomin

Faxed (Y or N): Y

Faxed Time: 7:00 p.m.

Details of Incident:

On Friday, February 24, 2012, at approximately 3:35 p.m., the Dunn County Communications Center received a call that an ATV had possibly gone through the ice on Lake Menomin. The Menomonie Fire Department and the Menomonie Police Department responded and met with witnesses who reported that they observed a hole in the ice near an underwater spring marked by pine trees on the lake's surface, and that there were tire tracks leading up to the hole in the ice. No witnesses reported actually seeing any vehicles or persons fall through the ice, but assistance from the Chippewa Fire District Dive Team was requested in the event a rescue or recovery mission became necessary.

Authorities spoke with a man who had been operating an amphibious vehicle in the area earlier in the afternoon after he had observed some people near the spring. He went to the area to check the thickness of the ice and broke through at the area of the spring. He confirmed that the vehicle tracks leading up to the hole in the ice belonged to his vehicle.

Firefighters used an underwater camera and sonar technology to check below the ice and there was no indication that a vehicle or person had fallen in the open water. The surrounding area was also searched and no personal items or fishing equipment were located to indicate somebody had been fishing at that location just prior to the report. The investigation showed that there was no indication of a person or vehicle that had gone through the ice at that location, so the Chippewa Fire District Dive team did not conduct an underwater search.

There is no additional information at this time.